1		The Honorable Lauren King
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7	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON	
8	AT SEATTLE	
9	STATE OF WASHINGTON, et al.,	NO. 2:25-cv-00244-LK
10	Plaintiffs,	DECLARATION OF N.B.
11	V.	
12	DONALD J. TRUMP, in his official capacity as President of the United States, et al.,	
13	Defendants.	
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I, N.B., declare as follows:

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- 1. I am over the age of 18, competent to testify as to the matters herein, and make this declaration based on my personal knowledge.
- 2. I have chosen to submit this declaration using only initials because I am fearful that the government could retaliate against me or my child, or individuals emboldened by recent actions of the Federal Government would target my family for speaking out.
- 3. I am the parent of a transgender and agender child, who I will refer to as "my child" to protect their anonymity. I am also the parent of a son, who I will refer to as "my son" for the same reason. My child's gender at birth was assigned as female. Being transgender means they do not identify with the gender they were assigned at birth, and being agender means they do not identify with any specifically labeled gender.
- 4. My first awareness that my child was different was when they were very young. They refused to wear dresses to point of tears. They played with both toys designated for girl and toys designated for boys. They dressed themselves all the time, and by the age of two or three they were very firm in their outfit choices and expression. From that point on, I let them run with it. In kindergarten, my child wanted to have their hair cut very short and experimented with changing names at school. I had a few teachers come up to me and tell me.
- 5. Throughout childhood, my child had a sense of unease. A lot of the clothes that we shopped for in their section did not seem to fit them and were just not right for them. There were issues with self-esteem, a lot of wondering "who am I?", and depression, and anxiety. There was one time that their anxiety was so bad they went into the bathroom at school and couldn't come out. I had to go pick them up. In hindsight, we know that they were experiencing gender dysphoria, a mismatch between my child's body and their private experience of their gender identity.
- 6. As their gender dysphoria worsened, my child experienced suicidal ideation, and self-harming, as well as issues of substance abuse. My child and I are very close. They were able

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to turn to me for help. This trust was important, because it helped them to lean on me in seeking gender-affirming care. I believe that care was what my child needed all along.

- 7. When my child was in middle school, they had about two months of in-person learning before the pandemic hit. That was when they told me that they were not a girl. They went through a period of conversation on their identity and changes in clothing. They expressed that they were unhappy and uncomfortable with their physical presentation, including their voice. They said that they wanted to start wearing a binder. They told their dad about this, and about their name change, and announced the change to the rest of our family.
- 8. A friend of my child's was taking testosterone, and recommended a gender clinic in Western Washington, where we waited for 6 months for an appointment. Once the waiting period was over, the doctor and other professionals we worked with were highly diligent and thorough in explaining options for gender-affirming care as well as its risks and benefits. There were many such appointments, and the information provided was extensive, both orally and in writing. There was bloodwork that we needed to do, and counseling with the whole family, but we jumped through all the hoops, and gave our consent for the doctor to order gender-affirming care for our child, including testosterone therapy.
- 9. Today my child is doing better than they were before receiving any gender-affirming care. Hormone replacement therapy has given my child hope, because their body better matches who they are inside. Their depression and anxiety have greatly lessened, and their ability to function and their social skills have improved. They want to engage in activities and spend time with friends. They think about the future and their plans and dreams.
- 10. I worry for them constantly though. The climate is not friendly towards transpeople, and I hate to think of them being harassed just for who they are. There was one incident recently that really shook me. I took my child to the doctor's office for routine bloodwork to check hormone levels. The phlebotomist refused to draw their blood and cited many reasons in their justification for denying my child the care they needed. None of those

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reasons checked out. We were told that the labs hadn't been dated properly; they had. We were told that they had expired; they hadn't. We were told that their manager wouldn't let them; this was untrue. They even repeatedly used the birth name instead the preferred name and incorrect pronouns when talking to and about my child, despite this information being noted in my child's chart. Our regular nurse was on the phone with us during this experience to confirm that the phlebotomist should not have any clerical error in the doctor's orders that prevented them from performing their duties, but they were making a big deal about everything and seemed defiant. In that moment, I knew it was discrimination. This was a humiliating and embarrassing experience for my child. It also shocked and upset me, because it showed me firsthand that if my child could be denied care and dignity on a whim, based on their identity, anyone could have their dignity undermined in the same way.

- I am aware the President of the United States has issued an Executive Order 11. restricting and preventing gender-affirming care for people under age 19.
- 12. I would be very concerned if the restrictions in this Executive Order were to affect medical providers in Washington. Specifically, if my child were unable to receive the care that they needed, I'd be fearful of what could happen to them. I'd be scared of losing them to suicide, or of watching them retreat back into substance abuse. I'd do anything to ensure access to their gender-affirming care. I'd travel to Canada. I would access hormones for my child in any way that I could. I'd rather get these medications at a U.S. pharmacy, as we do today. There, I know they're safe. But I'm not willing to lose my child. Gender-affirming care saved my child's life.
- 13. After the incident with the phlebotomist denying care to my child, the doctor at the gender clinic recommended that we file a complaint. I did this, but I don't know that anything came of it. After the Federal Government's Executive Order came out, my child and I talked about it. My child understood that their experience of discrimination was happening to other people, too. Around that time, a social media group I follow urged families with transgender children to communicate their stories to the Washington Attorney General's Office. I discussed

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this with my child and let them make the call about whether to become involved. They decided that we should share our story, and that in doing so, we might be able to help people.

14. Acting alone, it is unlikely that my family could challenge the Federal Government's Executive Order. We lack the time, energy and knowledge—we wouldn't know where to begin. Having the help and expertise of the state behind this challenge is encouraging. It gives me hope for my child, and for all the other affected individuals and families who are supporting this effort. When enough people stand together, they can change the world.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington and the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 13th day of February 2025.

N.B.

Parent of K.B.